

Amusements.

THEATRE—King Henry VIII. THEATRE—The Strollers. THEATRE—The Living Christ. THEATRE—The Princess Nicotine. THEATRE—The Fenice Master. THEATRE—The Comedian's Wife. THEATRE—The Professor's Love Story. THEATRE—The Wollen Stocking. THEATRE—The Wollen Stocking. THEATRE—The Wollen Stocking.

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Business Notices.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign.—There was found in a Paris street a package containing ten dynamite cartridges and papers threatening reprisals by Anarchists in case Vaillant be put to death; the bomb-thrower is still defiant. The Pope celebrated mass in St. Peter's in the presence of 15,000 persons; he was apparently in excellent health. Von Bismarck, the composer, is said to be in a hopeless condition. The Allan Line steamer is five days overdue at St. John N. F., and fears are felt for her safety.

Domestic.—Democratic Congressmen threaten to defeat the Wilson bill unless it is amended to suit their various constituencies. The Bi-metallic League is preparing to carry the fight for free silver into the next Congressional elections. It is rumored that the Erie system between New-York and Chicago will pass under the control of the New-York Central. The Republican members-elect of the next Legislature at Albany propose to cut down the expenses of the State Department.

The weather.—Forecast for to-day: Fair, slightly colder. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 46 degrees; lowest, 34; average, 36.5. In a well-considered letter which appears on another page our Albany correspondent points out some ways in which the general expenses of the State can be reduced without harm to the interests of the people. It is a significant fact that the cost of the various State commissions has increased from \$67,441 in 1882—the last year that a Republican Governor held office—to \$1,180,113 in 1892. The natural growth of the State would account for only a little part of this increase; the rest must be set down to Democratic extravagance. Governor Flower has taken a free hand in the increase of expenses, despite his professions of economy. Some branches of the State government, like the Board of Claims, can doubtless be abolished, and in others, especially those in which politics greatly flourish, large reductions in expenses can easily be made. This subject would demand careful and studious attention from the Legislature, especially at a time when economy in general is being enforced by prevailing conditions.

The interesting comparisons furnished by our Washington bureau to-day, which are instructive, if not conclusive. Some startling statements were made yesterday by a Brooklyn priest, Father Mahoney, regarding cases of hunger and destitution which had come under his observation. He declared that hundreds of families in Brooklyn are starving, and called for generous help for those in pressing need. Perhaps Father Mahoney did not paint the picture too strongly, but when he undertook to name the causes of the distress he went wide of the mark. He seems to think that employers have closed their mills and factories in order to force up prices. This is absurd. The manufacturers would be glad to run on full time if they could market their goods. Father Mahoney should confine himself to facts and let theories alone.

In his address on Hawaii, in Boston on Saturday night, ex-Minister Stevens made some statements which the ardent defenders of the Cleveland-Gresham policy would do well to ponder. Not only did he show that in the crisis last January he and Captain Wilcox acted in the spirit of the instructions given by Secretary Bayard to Minister Merrill in 1887, but he also pointed out that in seconding the movement for annexation he followed the precedent set by Secretary Marcy in 1824, when the negotiation of a treaty of annexation with the Hawaiian Government was authorized by President Pierce and his Cabinet. Are Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Gresham better Democrats than Mr. Pierce, Mr. Marcy and Mr. Bayard?

VIGILANCE STILL NEEDED. The signs of the times are full of encouragement for the friends of good government. In that fact, however, lies a great danger to the cause. Just prior to the last November election it looked very much as if the rescue of the State from the control of the Tammany Bosses who were carrying things with such a high hand was a hopeless undertaking. The combination had so fortified themselves in the large cities and had so strengthened themselves at all points by the legislation which their fraudulently gained majorities in the Legislature had enacted with that sole purpose, that good citizens were disheartened at the prospect. The mere fact that the Bosses, who were known to be shrewd and cunning political managers, thoroughly conversant with the situation in the State and acquainted with the minutest details of the strength of their party machine, had with brazen audacity put in nomination for the Court of Appeals the most unpopular man in their party, riding rough shod over the protests of influential leaders and the opposition of a majority of the newspapers of the party, operated in some sense as a discouragement instead of inspiring the confidence that naturally flows from an opponent's weakness. The Bosses were confident of Maynard's election. The Republicans feared it, and hardly dared hope for his defeat.

The result was a surprise. Ever since it was declared the Republicans, astonished and elated at finding themselves in unexpected possession of both branches of the Legislature, have been applying themselves to the consideration of measures and policies for the correction of the mischiefs which the two years' reversion of the Bosses has fastened on the State and on this city. Republican leaders who have the confidence of the party have been roused to a sense of the great responsibility which the results of the November election have placed upon the organization, and the necessity for such wise and prudent action on the part of the Legislature as will justify the confidence of the people. Not in many years has this sense of responsibility been so widely felt and so profound. The disposition to subordinate individual ambitions and still personal considerations for the welfare of the party and the public good has never been more marked or general. The elation of victory, instead of provoking a reckless rush of self-seekers for the spoils or a flood of schemes for partisan advantage and the perpetuation of power, as is too often the case, has settled into the serious and thoughtful disposition which properly befits the entrance of a great party upon a task of the utmost consequence to itself and to the State. In the utterances of all the leaders and all the newspapers of the party the need of caution blended with firmness and courage has been urged. The Tribune has pointed out the lines on which reform legislation is imperatively demanded. It claims no copyright or patent on its suggestions, nor will it assume the sole or exclusive credit for them if adopted. Their chief merit is that they embody what all Republicans and most of their allies in the recent election are agreed upon and unite in.

The present prospect is that the Legislature which meets next month will give more than usual heed to the counsels of disinterested leaders of thought and opinion, and will not in this regard disappoint public expectation. But it must be borne in mind, as already said, that in the signs of the times which are so full of encouragement there are also danger signals. The Bosses have been unusually quiet since election. Some of them have come to grief to an extent undreamed of. All of them have suffered disappointment and wear a subdued aspect. It must not be for a moment thought, however, that they are actually subdued, or that they or any of them contemplate retiring from politics or giving up the fight for power. Their strength has been shaken but not broken. The fight against them is still on. It always will be. The opponents of misgovernment and Boss rule can never afford to lay down their arms or go off duty. The Bosses may be momentarily discomfited, but they soon rally. They are advocates, audacious, desperate. What is more, they are smooth, persuasive, plausible; have abundant recuperative powers and ample resources. There is no less need for constant vigilance now that Sheehan has been "downed" in Buffalo, McLaughlin in Brooklyn, Hill and Murphy in the State, and the New-York Boss has been drawn into a three-column interview in his own defence. From this time forward, at least, until the Legislature has done its reformatory work and adjourned, let no good citizen relax his vigilance or permit his interest to flag in the great work to be done.

JOHN Y. MCKANE'S TROUBLES.

John Y. McKane is only at the beginning of his troubles. He has been sentenced to spend a month in jail and to pay a fine of \$250 for contempt of court in disregarding the injunction issued by Judge Barnard, and he is now putting forth every effort to postpone at least the payment of the penalty for this misconduct. But before that matter can be got out of the way McKane's acts are to be subjected to another searching review. To-day the extraordinary Grand Jury summoned to investigate the misdoings in the town of Gravesend is to begin its work, the ultimate outcome of which is not unlikely to be the handing of McKane in the State Prison. The punishment for contempt seems quite inadequate, but it must be borne in mind that the law may have a good deal to say, in addition, to this most unscrupulous political boss. The scathing denunciation of Judge

Barnard cannot be without an effect on the Grand Jury. They will have to deal with substantially the same facts which the Judge has so ably reviewed and summed up, and of course they will be met by the same denials as those which Judge Barnard swept aside as unworthy of consideration.

The Judge affirms that "there was false registry," and that "there was illegal refusal to file," and called for generous help for those in pressing need. Perhaps Father Mahoney did not paint the picture too strongly, but when he undertook to name the causes of the distress he went wide of the mark. He seems to think that employers have closed their mills and factories in order to force up prices. This is absurd. The manufacturers would be glad to run on full time if they could market their goods. Father Mahoney should confine himself to facts and let theories alone.

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POOR ELEVATED ROAD SERVICE.

In the last few months especially it must have been made clear to the Rapid Transit Commissioners that the people of New-York have little or nothing to hope from any rapid transit plan which is allied with or dependent upon the present elevated system. The managers of the Manhattan road have never shown a disposition to give the people anything like a fair recompense for the great benefits which it enjoys. Much less have they recently tried to meet the demands of the public. There has never been a time in the history of elevated roads in this city when their inefficiency has been more clearly demonstrated than recently. There has never been a time when less regard was shown for the needs of the people, when they were subjected to more discomforts and annoyances, and when the indifference of the Manhattan officials was more plainly expressed. During the holiday shopping period no effort has been made, so far as one can see, to accommodate the increased traffic. New-Yorkers have so long been used to being herded like cattle by the elevated road in the morning and evening hours that they have almost ceased to complain. They have accepted the assurance that it was not possible to run more trains in those hours. But it would be extremely difficult for friends of the elevated system to prove that enough trains could not be put on in the early afternoon to accommodate the thousands of women who are doing their Christmas shopping. The simple truth of the matter is that the officials do not care a jot about the people. They know that the women, weary with their shopping, burdened with their packages and bundles, must get home. They will submit to being forced into a crowded car with hydraulic pressure, or they will stand on the station platform, indignant but helpless, letting trains pass until one comes along in which they have a slight chance of not being jammed into pulp.

The busy men of this city—and the great majority of New-York's citizens are busy—are constantly robbed of their time by an irregular service. Between some trains there are intervals of several minutes, and this always means not only delay, but misery, after one gets into a train, for it is because the trains are overcrowded that they get so far behind time, and when they finally come along after a long delay there is often not a chance to enter a car, while if one succeeds in forcing his way inside he is lucky to find constricted standing-room. Because there is an insufficiency of trains there can be no perfect schedule of running time. It takes a long time to drive fifty or a hundred passengers through a solid mass of humanity at one station. While this is being done another large crowd is gathering at the station beyond. Here the battering ram operation must be repeated. "Once behind time, always behind time," is a good motto for the crew of the elevated system.

If the people of New-York expect better things of the Manhattan managers, their optimism surpasses understanding. With these officials it is a simple matter of calculation. So many people want to go, must go, uptown and downtown. At so much a head there is so much money in carrying them as they should be carried. If twenty more people can be squeezed into a car than ought to be there, the profits are increased. The passengers are helpless. They cannot force the managers of the road to give them better service; compulsion is out of the question, for the company is beautifully protected by its privileges. Pleadings and protests are useless. The Manhattan Company has a monopoly and it snags its fingers in the face of the public. New-York does not want any system of rapid transit which in any way kin to the present elevated roads.

DEMOCRATIC SOUP-HOUSES.

There is one matter of the highest importance which the Committee of Ways and Means is overlooking. In making provision for the coming year it is allowing nothing for the cost of keeping open National soup and lodging houses in the towns throughout the country. But nothing can be more clear than that such provision will have to be made by somebody for the millions whom a change of National policy has thrown out of employment. There is no justice whatever in expecting that the different States and cities will take upon themselves these enormous expenses, since they are rendered necessary exclusively by the determination of the United States to undertake a great experiment, at a time when the people are least able to bear it, and against which many of the cities and States protested by phenomenal majorities more than a month ago. If the Democratic party is nevertheless determined to try its experiment, no matter what suffering and loss it may cost, the least it can do is to provide from the National Treasury for the Democratic soup-houses which are an inevitable consequence.

The duty of the General Government to relieve suffering and starvation by means of funds from the Treasury has been repeatedly recognized in other cases by appropriations which both parties have favored. But the duty becomes immeasurably clearer in this case, when the suffering and starvation are due, not to flood or pestilence or failure of crops or other act of God, but to the deliberate choice of Democratic rulers. They have decided that the change to a different National policy must be made, and that it must be made at a time when

the country is least able to bear it. No doubt they believe that the change will bring good in the end; whether that is so or not, time will show. But meanwhile it is a sacred duty to take some care of the millions who are being crushed under this revolution of National policy. For reasons which Democratic rulers no doubt consider good, it is decided to try the change at a peculiarly unfortunate time for the millions who earn wages. All the more, therefore, Congress is bound to make some provision for the necessities of these millions, that their sufferings may be mitigated.

No such National provision for suffering and need throughout the country has ever been required under Republican Administrations, because Republican policy secures fair employment and decent wages to the people. It is claimed that the Democratic policy would do even better after the change is once over, but the man who votes to make it at such a time as this, if he does not wish to be regarded as destitute of any sense of duty and humanity, will surely be ready to appropriate from the National Treasury enough to help the people over the awful gulf of transition. The cost must of course be large, as the suffering is widespread and great, but all this Democratic rulers must have taken into account when they decided to make the change proposed, and if, as they claim, the country is going to profit by it enormously in the end, it would be the most cruel and inhuman act of which any Government has ever been guilty to refuse an advance by use of the public credit to save from starvation the individuals whose livelihood is taken away for the advantage of others.

It would cost a large sum, no doubt. Mr. Gompers, head of the Federation of Labor, publicly states the number of the unemployed at 3,000,000, and it may naturally be even greater before the change has been completely effected. These people are of classes which have been earning, according to the last Census report, an average of \$500 yearly, and the bare support of themselves and families can hardly cost less than \$1 per day. It would therefore require something like \$300,000,000 per month to keep open the soup and lodging houses, and other provisions for the bare necessities of those whom the Democratic party deprives of wages. As Congress must spend at least six months in acting, Government bonds for \$540,000,000 should be issued at once to meet the current expenses of the change, with provision that the amount shall be increased to \$150,000,000 per month if the number unemployed increases to 5,000,000, and that further issues at the rate of \$300,000,000 to \$150,000,000 per month shall be continued after the six months, if necessary, to avert National calamity. Democratic soup-houses cost something, but the cost will be less if it is borne directly by the General Government than if it is unjustly thrown upon cities and towns and private individuals throughout the land.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

About three weeks ago, reviewing evidence of the condition of business, a competent observer declared that there were distinct signs of improvement, especially since the elections; that the patient had clearly started on the road toward recovery, and unless a relapse occurred trade would be better. The relapse came the very week the new tariff was made public, and proofs of it are now seen everywhere. In the month of November, the sales of wool at three chief markets, which had been smaller than in 1892 every month since April, suddenly increased, and exceeded those of November, 1892. But for two weeks of December they have fallen off about one-half, and the decrease, compared with last year, is 25 per cent. In November the shipments of boots and shoes from Boston, after falling behind last year's 30 per cent or more for several months, advanced so that they were but 10 per cent smaller than last year. But in two weeks of December the shipments given by "The Shoe and Leather Reporter" have been 24 per cent smaller than in the same weeks last year. The iron industry made a sharp advance in November, the weekly output rising from 80,000 to 90,000 tons, but now more iron works are mentioned in dispatches as closing, and at least have dropped to the lowest point touched this year. The records of building permits at principal cities show a remarkable decrease at New-York they are less than half of last year in amount involved, at Brooklyn only about a fifth of last year's, and for the whole year thus far not a quarter; at St. Louis for the whole year less than one-half, and even at Chicago less than one-half. Mr. Gompers, just elected as the head of the Federation of Labor, publicly states that fully three-quarters of the members of the various unions are out of employment. The best authorities state that less than half the wooden machinery is now active, and even a smaller proportion of the hat and glove workers, and, while takings of cotton by Northern spinners are only about 20 per cent less than a year ago, the proportion of productive capacity employed is much smaller.

It is in view of this state of things that current financial indications have to be judged. The cash held by New-York banks has risen above \$299,000,000, the surplus being over \$76,000,000, and this fact also tells how scanty is the commercial or industrial demand. About \$3,200,000 more money came in last week from the interior, so that notwithstanding exports of \$1,740,573 gold and \$96,514 silver during the week, the supply of money actually increased. The possibility of a heavy outgo of gold is discussed without any apprehension, bankers being willing to help the Treasury by providing the precious metal, as they would not be if they had reason to anticipate an active business demand. It has come to be the general belief that Congress will not be able to act on the tariff question for about two months in the House, nor until midsummer in the Senate, and no practical man expects to see general recovery of industry until that question has been settled one way or the other.

The state of foreign trade ought to suffice to prevent gold exports, for that quantity at New-York in November were but \$39,882,102, against \$43,113,163 last year, indicating an aggregate of \$41,000,000 for the country, while the exports of principal products in the same month amounted to \$64,628,478, against \$74,562,819 last year, indicating something like \$88,000,000 aggregate exports. For half of December the decrease of imports has been 30 per cent here, while the decrease in exports has been about 12 per cent, would indicate for that month an excess of \$21,000,000 or more. That gold goes abroad in such circumstances, just as it did a year ago soon after the Presidential election in spite of a heavy excess of exports over imports of merchandise, is evidence that foreign capital in large amount is being withdrawn in view of the poor prospects for profitable employment of money here. It is always impossible to determine how much selling of stocks at any time is for foreign account, but the unfavorable reports of St. Paul and Western Union impressed the minds of ordinary holders more than the decrease of 12 1/2 per cent in gross earnings for the first week of December, which is the largest decrease since September. In November the loss was 6.65 per cent on 130 roads reported by "The Financial Chronicle," notwithstanding an increase of over 2,000 in the miles operated.

In other markets there has been little to encourage. Wheat is so low that few people care to sell it at all, but the natural decrease in Western receipts at this season encourages some buying. The receipts for three weeks have been only 10,200,000 bushels, against 18,600,000 bushels last year, and the exports for two weeks of December from both coasts, four

million, have been 5,775,950 bushels, against 7,681,551. Last week the exports were remarkably small. But the price declined to 67.56 cents, over 1 1/2 cents for the week. Corn was in larger receipt, greatly surpassing last year also in exports, for two weeks 2,396,800 bushels, against 1,534,667, but the price declined almost 2 cents. Pork and lard were both a little lower. Cotton rose three-sixteenths on speculation, closing an eighth higher than a week ago, in spite of the fact that the quantity which has come into sight is now 4,663,958 bales, against 4,230,643 last year, and the addition in December is 48,000 bales more than last year, while the takings of Northern spinners have been 41,000 bales less than last year. Notwithstanding stocks abroad are nearly as large as they were a year ago, and increase just as fast, exports for the last two weeks have been 172,000 bales greater than last year, but American stocks are only 115,000 bales less than a year ago, and increase about 10 left rapidly. Over 5,000,000 bales will have left plantations in four months, ending with December, and yet some still profess to believe that the crop is only about 6,500,000 bales.

One of the most striking signs of the times is the magnitude of liabilities involved in failures from week to week. Last week seven banks failed, with two firms and corporations having liabilities exceeding \$1,000,000 each, and six including these with liabilities exceeding \$2,500,000, while the total for 242 failures the previous week was \$7,721,406. At this rate the total for the quarter will exceed \$65,000,000 of trading and manufacturing liabilities alone, besides those of banks and railroads. It is believed by many that the disasters during the first part of the year will be unusually numerous, because so many concerns have been carried along by banks or other lenders. With fairly good business during the last few months, many of these would have pulled through, but the remarkable stagnation in trade has left them no chance of recovery. Painful as the facts are, there is continuing evidence that the average of commercial liabilities is not unusually high, so that the disaster must be attributed rather to outside influences than to commercial unsoundness in most cases.

CIVIL MARRIAGE IN HUNGARY.

Instead of remaining as of old the chief champion of conservatism, the realm of the Hapsburgs is becoming the veritable "enfant terrible" of European radicalism. On the Austrian side a scheme of well-nigh universal suffrage is afoot, introduced by Count Taaffe, and sustained by his disciples, Prince Windischgrätz, under the direct sanction of Emperor Francis Joseph himself. That it will go through, sooner or later, but probably soon, is a foregone conclusion. On the Hungarian side there has been introduced, with the King's permission, if not actually with his support, a Civil Marriage bill of the most radical character. That, too, will be enacted, though perhaps with some modifications, seems also well assured, although the Roman and Greek churches are opposing it with utmost vigor. If it does pass, in anything like its present form, it will put Hungary, so far as marriage and divorce are concerned, in the very front rank of liberalism; though indeed the measure is only a revival of an old proposed twenty-five years ago by the illustrious Francis Deak.

As introduced, this Civil Marriage bill is a formidable document of 167 clauses. It deals with all phases of the marriage question, including engagements and divorces, and is intended to be applied to all subjects, without distinction of creeds. In many respects it is similar to or identical with the French code, but in some important particulars goes considerably beyond it. Especially it is a civil marriage bill, for it not only makes invalid any contract of marriage not made before the civil registrar, but it imposes a fine of \$250 upon any priest of any creed who solemnizes a marriage before the contract has thus been made. The civil ceremony is thus made compulsory, and the religious ceremony reduced to the standing of a mere work of supererogation. Marriage with a deceased wife's sister, so long and so desperately wrangled over in England, is permitted. Damages can be claimed for breach of promise. Divorce is relegated exclusively to the civil courts, and may be granted on any of ten distinct grounds, including cruelty, desertion and incompatibility of temperament—the last named to be decided by the Judge. Marriage of a guilty respondent with the co-respondent may be forbidden. And there is a provision, in cases of incompatibility, for a separation for six or twelve months, during which reconciliation is to be attempted through judicial mediation.

The Greek and Roman churches are opposing the measure on three grounds, with only one of which will Americans feel sympathy, if, indeed, much with that. One ground is that it makes marriage a civil contract; and another, that it establishes the principle and practice of divorce, almost unknown under ecclesiastical law. These objections will here seem commendations. The third ground is that the Church's offices are altogether nullified, a marriage by a priest being void. With that objection many Americans will doubtless sympathize, being accustomed to seeing the clergy, for marriage purposes, endowed with civil official functions. Hungary will only show, as France has done, the zeal of a new convert. Our Government began with entire freedom of Church and State, and consequently could afford to allow the clergy of all creeds certain important privileges. European States, bursting with mighty efforts the bonds of clericalism, are naturally prone to exercise some vindictive tyranny over their former master. But in time an equilibrium of forces will be attained, and the nation will enjoy the blessing of "a free Church in a free State."

A significant indication of the extent of the present business depression is afforded by the action of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in issuing orders for the service of the "most rigid economy" in all departments. The railroads of the country have felt the effects of the stagnation in business severely, as the marked falling off in their earnings shows. Rigid economy on their part probably means the discharge of a considerable number of employes, thus increasing the already large proportions of the mass of people out of work.

The Board of Supervisors of Ulster County has failed to improve its opportunity for adopting the county road system in accordance with the law passed by the last Legislature. This law, in the enactment of which Governor Flower took a deep interest, provided that the Supervisors of any county might by a majority vote adopt the county road system, and should then designate as county roads such highways as it might deem best for the purpose outside the limits of cities and incorporated villages, after which the expense of rebuilding or maintaining these roads was to be a county charge, the money therefor to be appropriated each year by the Supervisors. No county has yet adopted the new system, but the subject was lately brought before the Ulster Board in a way that gave ground for the hope that good results would follow. But the proposition was voted down last week by a vote of 17 to 9. The principal objection was that the county would represent an actual outlay of money instead of a certain amount of days' work. The rural population seems to need a good deal of education yet on the subject of good roads and the best way to get them.

mitted to interfere with the attainment of a result which those best qualified to judge earnestly desire to see brought about in New-York. The amount deemed necessary—\$10,000—is not large compared with the importance of the object to be attained.

Oh, Mr. Croker! That is a fine character you give the tiger. All of yesterday the modest, bashful creature blushed like a sweet school-girl, but that left eye could not help winking at the spotted Tammany braves.

The decision of the Police Commissioners to place Captain O'Connor on trial is significant. They have done their duty thus far. The next thing in order is to make the trial thorough and genuine. It would be easy to turn it into a farce, but that the public would view with great disfavor. There are strong suspicions that some of the investigations made not long ago as the result of Dr. Parkhurst's accusations had little of a genuine character. There should be no ground for suspicion in reference to the trial of O'Connor. The Commissioners ought to bear in mind that it is their duty to act as impartial judges in this matter, and not as partisans.

PERSONAL.

Thomas S. Townsend, of this city, compiler of the remarkable newspaper history of the Civil War, lectured in Boston recently at the invitation of several prominent men of that city, on the part taken by Massachusetts in the war for the Union. Colonel T. W. Higginson presided.

Professor Tyndall was extremely sensitive in his later years on the subject of his health, and carefully hid his ailments from his nearest relatives. The number of letters he constantly wrote to the papers to assure the world that he was in the best of health would make a bulky volume. One of the best traits in Professor Tyndall's character is little known. He was one of the most charitable men in the world. So far as his rather small means allowed he never let a case of distress go unrelieved in whatever station of life, but he had a horror of horror ascription. As he was accompanied every gift, with the anxious remark, "Don't say who it is," his generosity always passed unacknowledged.

Charles R. Thorne, the veteran actor, whose death at the age of eighty-three was recently announced, was little known to later generations of playgoers, for it is sixty-four years since he made his first appearance, and his home has been for forty years on the Pacific coast. He was of the days of Forrest and Macready and the elder Wallack, and made his debut as Octavian in Colman's "The Mountbretts" at the old Park Theatre, in the city of New-York, in 1829. He was a famous actor, who died about twenty years ago. His two sons, Charles R. and Edwin, both developed into good actors.

The Marquis de Rays, a remarkable French character, who has just died, is said to be the man who suggested to Napoleon Bonaparte his amusing "Fort-Tarsson." The Marquis conceived the idea of forming a colony at Fort-Breton, in Oceania. With the aid of fallacious circulars he succeeded in obtaining funds for the realization of his fantastic enterprise. Unfortunately, he put most of them into his own pocket, and spent the remainder in sending to the imaginary colony a number of his victims, who died there in mass. He was sentenced for swindling. He was sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Mrs. N. E. Bronston, of Afton, Kan., has been setting type for forty-three years. She learned her trade in her father's office, in Newport, Ky., beginning when she was twelve years old. She has been part owner of one or two newspapers in her day, and has set type in many offices in Kansas. Dr. Hermann Schumacher, of Berlin, is in this country making a study of industrial features, principally in relation to breadstuffs. He has visited the Western States, and was recently on the floor of the Baltimore Corn and Flour Exchange. He will visit other Eastern cities. Dr. Schumacher was sent to this country by the Interior Department of Germany, and is to report to the Government on his return.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Whittaker's "Protestant Episcopal Church As managed" for 1894, and just appeared, contains a number of numbers that make it more than ever a necessary handbook for Episcopalian. During the last year 27 men were ordained to the ministry, a gain of 36 over the previous year. The number of communicants is given as 596,321, an increase of 17,667. The grand total of contributions was \$1,385,575.99, being an increase of \$287,118. This would indicate that the Episcopalian Church has been making fairly satisfactory progress during the past year. But in certain other matters it does not appear to have held its own. A decrease is reported of 3,721 baptisms, 1,135 confirmations, 481 marriages, 1,266 burials, 235 Sunday-school scholars, and 29 mission posts.

An instructive dialogue is reported to have taken place at the opening day of the Sussex Assizes. A juror rose in the box to ask to be exempted from service on account of distress. "Are you very deaf?" said the Judge in a low tone. "Yes, my lord," was the prompt reply. "You had better be sworn," said the Judge.—London Globe.

An English paper tells a good story of clerical presence of mind. A curate who had entered the pulpit provided with one of the late Rev. Charles Bradley's most recent homilies, was for a moment horror-struck by the sight of the Rev. Charles Bradley himself in a pew beneath him. Immediately, however, he recovered enough self-possession to be able to say: "The beautiful sermon I'm about to preach is by the Rev. Charles Bradley, who I'm glad to see is in good health among us assembled here."

A Severe Disciplinary—Little Girl—If I was a teacher I'd make everybody believe, Aunt—How would you accomplish that? Little girl—Just tell them they didn't look pretty; and when little boys had had I'd make them sit with the girls, and when big boys were in I wouldn't let them sit with the girls.—Good News.

One of the President's admirers, "The Chicago Mail," doesn't think much of the message. It says: "Not until he gets to the last page, where he inadvertently steps on the edge of the tariff question, does President Cleveland play ball. Even then he would be ruled off the diamond for half-hearted playing were he with Old Anse. He approaches this question with a whine; he leaves it with an appeal to Congress not to leave him, his party, and the country in the lurch. His whine, which once rang out clear for 'tariff reform,' shows signs of an impediment; his back, which was once straight and stiff, is now bent and wobbly. No document from Mr. Cleveland would be complete without reference to a 'sacred duty of the Government' and his 'intense feeling of responsibility.' Both are in his message, though it is shy on 'consecratedness.'"

Laura—Tell me, Uncle George, is that deformed gentleman what is called a crook? He had a bicycle, didn't he? He is a bicyclist.—(Boston Transcript).

In a Philadelphia shop window a unique old relic of a piano is displayed, bearing the following inscription: "John Jacob Astor sold this piano to one of the first families of New-York more than a century ago. Mr. Astor is believed to have been the first piano dealer in the United States." Then follows a copy of an advertisement in a New-York paper, dated January 10, 1788. It reads: "John Jacob Astor, at No. 31 Queen-st., next door back to the Friends' Meeting House, has for sale an assortment of pianofortes of the newest construction, made by the best makers of London, which he will sell on reasonable terms. He gives cash for all kinds of furs, and has for sale a quantity of Canadian beaver and Canada castors, racoon skins, muskrat skins, etc."

A Brilliant Intellect.—Teacher—Johnny, in what way did Noah display his wisdom? Johnny—Went in when it was raining.—(Chicago Record).

Says an American now in Japan, in "The Chicago Record": "The first gentleman who called upon me at the Grand Hotel, Yokohama, was an English importer and tailor. He made an early call—3 p.m. He remarked outside the door: 'Mister, me came measure you suit clothes. Allee same hot.' 'Call around again, please; I am not up yet.' He did. Called again at 6:30. Desiring to encourage enterprise in a foreign country, I let him in. 'Take measure now,' he said. 'Go it,' I replied, because it was red-hot and the Japanese sun was shining clear 'til 10' the p.m., shades and shutters. 'Make suit fit it.' He had samples with him in a valise. 'Suit ready tomorrow morning.' And, true enough, he did. Ah Shing is a Chinese merchant who has done business in Japan for several years. He employs forty-five tailors, and can give some of our merchants some pointers on prices and percentages."